

In the Claims:

Amend claims 12 and 22.

1-11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently amended). A method of determining a position of a solidification point in a strand (1) during a continuous casting of liquid metals and wherein the strand (1) formed in a continuous casting mold (4) and is displaced in support roller segments (5) provided with drive support roller pairs (6), the method comprising the steps of indirectly measuring a movable amount of a core liquid volume by direct measurement of generated process parameters on fixed or adjustable individual support rollers (6a) or groups (7) of fixed or adjustable support roller pairs (7a) with signal transmitters (10) which generate respective force and/or path signals which represent continuously changeable momentary positions of the solidification point in the cast strand (1) produced by continuous movement of the solidification to different locations ~~during casting~~ along an entire solidification stretch during casting of the cast strand; producing a calculation model (15) for a each momentary position of

the solidification point (1a) based on the force and/or path signals; and
continuously adjusting changeable casting parameters based on
respective calculated positions of the solidification point.

13. (Previously presented). A method according to claim 12, wherein the
force and/or path signals are based on a local change of a strand
thickness.
14. (Previously presented). A method according to claim 12, wherein the
force and/or path signals are based on a change of at least one of stop
plug position (8) and/or a valve position in an intermediate receptacle
(3) provided between the continuous casting mold (4) and the teeming
ladle.
15. (Previously presented). A method according to claim 12, wherein the
force and/or path signals are based on changes of a melt level (9) in
the continuous casting mold (4).
16. (Previously presented). A method according to claim 12, wherein the
force and/or path signals are based a changeable volume of liquid
metal that flows between an intermediate receptacle (3) and the
continuous casting mold.

17. (Previously presented). A method according to claim 12, wherein the signal transmitters generate force signals based on changes of clamping forces between support roller pairs (7a) or support roller segment sides (5a).
18. (Previously presented). A method according to claim 12, wherein dependent on the calculation model (15), an automatic adjustment of a support roller segment (5) or an adjustable support roller (6a) is carried out.
19. (Previously presented). A method according to claim 12, wherein a sequence of position or force changes in a same system direction on the strand (1) is undertaken from bottom upwards or in reverse.
20. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein a support roller segment (5) without independently adjustable, drive separate support roller (6a), on a loose side (13b), is adjusted, dependent on a position and width (1a) of a local and temporary solidification point (1a), by two piston-cylinder units (11) spaced in a strand displacement direction (14) below or above at an angle to the strand displacement direction (14).

21. (Previously presented). A method according to claim 12, wherein independently adjustable, driven support roller pair (6) on, a loose side (13b), in addition to adjustment of a support roller segment (5), dependent on the position and the width (1c) of the local and temporary solidification point (1d), is adjusted with a piston-cylinder unit (11).
22. (Currently amended). A device for determining a position of solidification point (1a) in a strand (1) during a continuous casting of liquid metals and wherein the strand (1) is formed in a continuous casting mold (4) and is displaced in support roller segments (5) or roller pairs (6) provided with driven support rollers (6a), the device comprising hydraulic piston-cylinder units (11) for adjusting the support roller segments; signal transmitters (10) provided in an intermediate receptacle (3) that is located between a teeming ladle (2) and the continuous casting mold (4), in the continuous casting mold (4), in the hydraulic piston-cylinder units (11) of the support roller segments (5) and/or on adjustable, free-running, or driven individual rollers (6a) for generating force and/or path signals which represent continuously changeable temporary positions of the solidification

point in the cast strand (1) produced by continuous movement of the solidification point to different locations ~~during casting~~ along an entire solidification stretch during casting of the cast strand; and data processing unit (12) for processing force and/or path signals and for producing a calculation model (15) used for calculating respective momentary positions of the solidification point based on which changeable casting parameters are continuously adjusted.